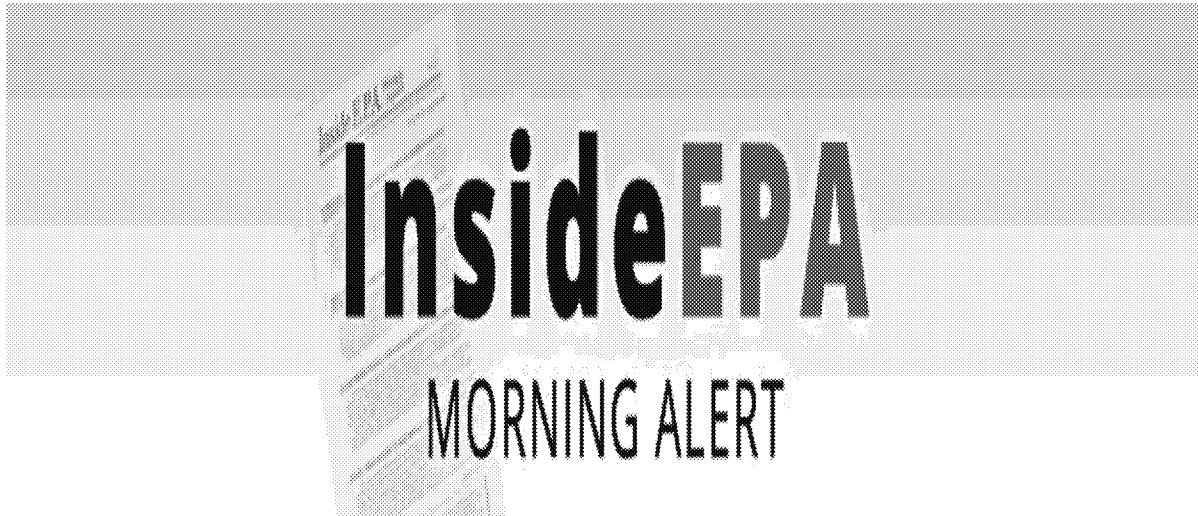


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**REDEFINING EPA: Overhauling an agency and its mission -- Complete coverage**

May 1, 2019

#### Latest News

##### **Utility AEP Tells House Democrats That Ratepayers Fund UARG Dues**

American Electric Power (AEP) is confirming to House Democrats that ratepayers foot the bill for its membership in the Utility Air Regulatory Group (UARG), the long-time group that is losing members in the face of a House inquiry into its ties with EPA air chief Bill Wehrum, who represented the group when he served in private practice.

##### **E15 Plan Faces Rocky Path In Face Of Oil Sector, Environmentalists' Attacks**

EPA's proposal to waive fuel volatility requirements to allow year-round sales of 15 percent ethanol fuel (E15) and to overhaul the market for biofuel credits is drawing strong legal attacks from the oil sector and major environmental groups opposed to increased ethanol use, signaling a rocky path ahead given near-certain litigation over the measure.

##### **Bipartisan Group Seeks PFAS Rule As Data Shows Contamination Expanding**

As environmentalists prepare to release new data showing growing contamination from per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in drinking water, a bipartisan group of House lawmakers has introduced legislation setting a two-year deadline for EPA to regulate the substance, though the bill leaves open key issues the agency would have to address.

##### **White House Starts ACE Review, Sticking To June Deadline For Final Rule**

White House regulatory officials have started interagency review of EPA's draft final Affordable Clean Energy (ACE) rule addressing greenhouse gases from existing power plants, the last step before the rule can go final, a move that suggests the agency remains on track to complete the rule by the end of June.

## **O'Rourke Plan Highlights Push To Make Climate Top-Tier Democratic Issue**

Former Rep. Beto O'Rourke's (D-TX) new climate change platform is highlighting the pressure on Democratic presidential candidates to prioritize the issue in the lead up to the 2020 elections, a dynamic that could elevate a debate that observers have long said is a prerequisite for major legislation but which could also split key party constituencies.

## **Local Officials Tout Climate Policies But Seek Federal Rules To End Patchwork**

Local officials are touting their "aggressive" pursuit of climate change policies including renewable power mandates and greenhouse gas controls, but say the patchwork of programs across states and localities are "no substitute" for a sweeping federal climate regulations that they want to see developed using those programs as models.

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### **Daily Feed**

#### **IG blasts OMB for blocking glider truck investigation**

The agency's inspector general says the White House budget office has been refusing to detail its process for reviewing the agency's controversial glider truck plan.

#### **Infrastructure meeting 'constructive' but policy issues emerge**

Despite the apparent progress, significant skepticism remains that a big infrastructure deal can get done in the current Congress, especially given disagreements over environmental and climate provisions.

#### **House poised to debate bill blocking Trump's Paris withdrawal**

The measure would block President Donald Trump's planned exit of the Paris Agreement and would require him to offer a plan for meeting the Obama administration's GHG target under the pact.

#### **Drinking water utilities meet with OMB on perchlorate**

The April 30 meeting is likely to include the American Water Works Association's criticisms of EPA's modeling approach to setting a perchlorate standard.

#### **Ewire: GOP taps top former advisers for climate panel staff**

In today's Ewire: The hires "show Republicans are feeling pressure to treat global warming seriously and could signal a more centrist approach," *Bloomberg* says.

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